



# ***Troop Four Family Newsletter March 13, 2007***

**Return of Troop Equipment:** Any scout with troop camping equipment outstanding – please return by the next troop meeting.

**Merit Badge Classes:** for *Wilderness Survival* and *Personal Management* are under way at the troop meetings. In addition, in April we will be starting the *Cycling* merit badge – in conjunction with the May cycling camping trip. Scouts will have the opportunity to finish the badges before the June Court of Honor.

**Yo-Yo Troop Meeting Night:** The **March 15** troop meeting will be a **special meeting** – we have a yoyo professional attending the troop meeting and there will be a demonstration plus a chance to learn some yoyo tricks as well. **Each scout will get a professional model yoyo to keep!**

**Ice Cream Sundae Night:** will be at the March 22 troop meeting! Scouts should be prepared to eat for that meeting.

**Order of the Arrow Elections:** were held on the March 1 troop meeting. All scouts who were eligible for membership were nominated by the scouts. Information packages regarding the upcoming Ordeal weekends will be sent out by the Order of the Arrow Chippanyonk Lodge.

**March Troop Hike:** will be an orienteering hike at Peppercorn Hill in Upton (start and finish at the Milford entrance to the park) on Saturday, March 24. This will be a great one day event with lots of scout style orienteering (and lots of fried dough too). New scouts will complete the Second Class 5 mile hike requirement plus we will complete several other Second and First Class outdoor requirements. Venture scouts will be setting up the courses the weekend before on March 17.

We will meet at St. Mary's parish center at 9:00 AM Saturday morning and return for pick up by 5:00 PM Saturday afternoon. **Scouts should bring a day pack with a compass, lunch, snacks, and plenty of water. Depending on the weather, scouts should also bring a poncho/raincoat, warm coat, gloves and a hat too. Chances are it will be wet and muddy, so boots will work better than sneakers.**

**If your son would like to attend, please complete the attached permission slip (Venture Scouts too for this date) and return by the March 22 troop meeting. If your son would like to attend but will not be at the troop meeting on March 22 please email Dave Kirchner before the 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

We will need some drivers to/from the event. If you can drive, please note on the permission slip. We elected to car pool to/from the event because the parking lot and road at the park is small and we want to minimize the traffic impact to area for the day.

This is a great way for Venture scouts to help meet their activity and leadership requirements for advancement too!

**Troop Swim Night:** is scheduled for Thursday, April 5 (instead of the troop meeting) at the Milford High School pool from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Pizza and beverages will be provided.

**The April Troop Camping Trip:** date was changed from April 27 – 29 to the following weekend of May 5 – 6. **We are in the process of switching again to a different date in April,** More information to follow.

**The May Troop Camping Trip:** for May 18 – 20 will be a cycling trip on Cape Cod! More information on the way and plenty of time to prepare those bicycles!

*Troop Newsletter continued next page.....*

**The June High Adventure White Water Trip:** will be Saturday, June 23 through Monday June 25. We will be whitewater rafting in Maine on the Kennebec River! We are also using a new outfitter for the trip and we are staying at a campsite that has a pool, hot tub, climbing wall and hot showers. This is a great adventure – please mark your calendars for the event. We will also need some parents to drive and stay for the event (you don't have to do the white water). More information on the way.

**Camp Resolute 2007:** will be Sunday, July 22 through Friday, July 27. More information to follow.

### **Venture Scout Corner** *Information Especially for Venture Scouts:*

**Thanks:** to Mr. Phil Bedard for the great missile defense “Star Wars” presentation and insight into the engineering profession.

**Career Presentation:** the troop is working to get at least one professional to talk about their careers each month for March through June (the Yo-Yo professional doesn't count as one). More information to follow.

**Orienteering Hike Set Up:** will be at Peppercorn Hill Saturday, March 17 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. **We need venture scouts to set up the orienteering course for the rest of the troop.**

Scouts should meet **at the Peppercorn Hill Parking Lot (Milford side) at 10:00 AM** (not at the parish center). Bring a compass and a filled canteen. The troop will provide lunch and all the supplies to set up the course.

To get to Peppercorn Hill Conservation Area: take Purchase Street to Camp Street. Follow Camp Street to the end, coming to a 4-way intersection. Go right onto Reservoir Road. Reservoir Road turns into Crockett St. when you cross the town line into Upton. The parking lot for the area is on your left, across the street from North Pond.

No permission slip is necessary, but sign up will be at the March 15 troop meeting. If your son can attend but won't be at the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> please email Dave Kirchner by Thursday, March 15.

***This is a great way for some of the Venture Scouts to help meet their activity and leadership requirements for advancement.***

### **Upcoming Event Dates & Reminders:**

- Thursdays March 15, 22, 29 are regular troop meeting dates.
- Saturday March 17 is Venture Scout Orienteering Hike set up
- Saturday March 24 is the Troop Orienteering Hike at Peppercorn Hill
- Thursday April 5 is Troop Swim Night at Milford High School Pool
- Thursday April 12 is a regular troop meeting
- **No meeting April 19 – Happy School Vacation!**
- April 26 is a regular Troop meeting

**Troop Four Website:** checkout the new Troop 4 website at: [www.troop4milford.org](http://www.troop4milford.org) we will have more and more information on the site in the future.

Please call the Dave Kirchner at 508-478-5915 or email at [kirchner5@comcast.net](mailto:kirchner5@comcast.net) if you have any questions.